

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-2: (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Process for the preparation of nano size zinc oxide particles ~~having an average primary particle diameter of  $\leq 15$  nm, determined in a transmission electron micrograph~~, which are redispersible in organic solvents and/or water, comprising

- a) carrying out basic hydrolysis of at least one zinc compound in alcohol or an alcohol/water mixture, wherein the hydrolysis is carried out with substoichiometric amounts of base, based on the zinc compound, to form a precipitate;
- b) leaving the precipitate which initially forms during hydrolysis to mature until the zinc oxide has completely flocculated,
- c) thickening the precipitate to give a gel; and
- d) separating the gel from the supernatant phase;

wherein the gel comprises nano sized zinc oxide particles having an average primary particle diameter of  $\leq 15$  nm, determined in a transmission electron micrograph.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 3, wherein prior to, during or after precipitation, from 0.01 to 3 mol% of foreign ions, based on proportion of zinc, are added.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): Process according to Claim 3 wherein the zinc compound comprises at least one of zinc acetate and zinc acetate dihydrate.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): Process according to Claim 5, wherein the at least one of zinc acetate and zinc acetate dihydrate is prepared from zinc oxide in an upstream process.

Claims 7-10: (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 3, wherein the gel is redispersed in organic solvents and/or water, optionally with the addition of surface-modifying compounds.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The process of Claim 3, wherein the gel is redispersed by adding dichloromethane and/or chloroform.

Claims 13-17 (Cancelled)